

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 currently appear in this application. The Office Action of July 12, 2007, has been carefully studied. These claims define novel and unobvious subject matter under Sections 102 and 103 of 35 U.S.C., and therefore should be allowed. Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration, entry of the present amendment, and formal allowance of the claims.

Restriction has been required among what the Examiner considers to be patentably distinct species of the invention, as follows:

Group I, drawn to as set of motor-driven instruments, presently comprising claims 1-9;

Group II, drawn to an osteotome, presently comprising claims 10-12;

Group III, drawn to a connector, presently comprising claims 13-16; and

Group IV, drawn to a starter drill, presently comprising claim 17.

Applicant hereby elects, with traverse, Group I, claims 1-9, drawn to a set of motor-driven instruments.

The present amendment makes claims 10-17 dependent from claim 1. That is, the claims reciting details of the osteotome, connector, and starter drill, all depend from claim 1, which is drawn to a set of motor-driven instruments including all of these elements. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that all groups include the same special technical feature, which is a set of motor-driven instruments including an osteotome, a connector, and a starter drill.

If the election requirement is maintained, it will be clear on the record that the PTO considers the groups to be patentably distinct from one another *i.e.*, *prima facie* non-obvious from one another. This means that a reference identical to the one group would not render the other group *prima facie* obvious.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance, and favorable action thereon is earnestly solicited.

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Respectfully submitted,

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